



THE PRESIDENCY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATION

Permanent Secretary (General Service Office)

Presidential Wing, Shehu Shagari Complex, Three Arms Zone, Abuja Nigeria

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22nd April, 2024

SGF.19/S.52/C.3/T

Executive Secretary/CEO

Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI)

NEITI House,

Wuye, Abuja

RE-CONSTITUTION OF NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS

WORKING GROUP (NSWG)

I write to convey to you the approval of President Ahmed Bola Tinubu, GCFR of the re-constitution of NEITI National Stakeholders Working Group, (NSWG) with the Secretary to the Government of the Federation Sen, George Akume, CON, as Chairman and the Executive Secretary Dr Orji Ogbonnaya Orji as Secretary to the Board.

2. Please find attached Mr President's approval with list of other members for your further necessary action.

3. Please, accept the warm regards of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation.

Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, Ph.D, FCA, OON

Permanent Secretary (General Services Office)

For: Secretary to the Government of the Federation

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Mr. President,

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**RE-CONSTITUTION OF NEITI NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS
WORKING GROUP (NSWG) TO AVERT INTERNATIONAL
SANCTIONS**

The purpose of this memorandum is to seek Your Excellency's consideration and approval for the re-constitution of the Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) National Stakeholders Working Group (NSWG).

2. In this regard, my Office is in receipt of letter referenced **NEITI/ADM/208/VII/725** dated **15th December, 2023** from the **Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) (Annex I)**, in respect of the above-mentioned matter. My Office also received on your Excellency's behalf a delegation from the Chair of the global Board of the EITI and the Prime Minister of New Zealand, Rt. Hon. Helen Clark on 3rd January, 2024 to stress the urgency for the re-constitution of the NEITI NSWG.

3. Your Excellency, according to Annex I, there is the immediate need for intervention and re-constitution of the NEITI-NSWG to avert international sanctions including possible suspension of Nigeria from the global organisation which no doubt would attract negative image for our country both at home and abroad.

4. Your Excellency is respectfully invited to note that, NEITI is of strategic importance to the oil, gas and mining reforms with international affiliations. The peculiar strategic role of the NSWG is a key condition to sustain member countries membership and a vital component of the EITI multi-stakeholders framework.

5. Mr. President, Sections 6 (1), (2), (3) and 7 of the NEITI Act 2007, provides for the composition of the NEITI NSWG (NEITI Board) thus:

"6 (1) The NSWG shall be constituted by the President and shall consist of the Chairman and not more than 14 other members, one of whom is the Executive Secretary.

6 (2)(a) In making appointment into the NSWG, the President shall include:

- i. Representative of the extractive industry companies;**
- ii. Representative of the Civil Society;**

- iii. *Representative of Labour Unions in the extractive industries;*
- iv. *Experts in the extractive industry; and*
- v. *One member from each of the six geo-political zones.*

6 (20 (b)) *The Chairman and other members of the NSWG other than the Executive Secretary shall serve on part time basis.*

6 (3) *the appointment of the Executive Secretary shall be for 5 years and no more.*

7. *a person appointed as a member of the NSWG shall hold office for 4 years and no more."*

6. Your Excellency, to meet EITI and other global standards and also align with the NEITI Act, 2007, below is a humble suggestion/guidance in the composition of the NSWG (NEITI Board).

S/N	NAME	POSITION	REMARKS
1	The Secretary to the Government of the Federation – SGF	Chairman	The EITI standard requires that the Chair shall be a high-ranking Government official with influence and access to the President & C-in-C.
2	Executive Chairman, FIRS	Member	Government Representative
3	Group Chief Executive Officer, NNPC Ltd	Member	Representative of extractive companies (oil and gas)
4	Mr. Oghenegwueke Ajafia	Member	Oil Producers Trade Section, Lagos Chamber of Commerce (OPTS)
5	President, Miners Association of Nigeria	Member	Representative of extractive companies (mining)
6	Representative of the Civil Society Organisations	Member	To be elected by the CSOs. The OSGF has written to the CSOs through NEITI to elect & present their

			representative and the process is on.
7	Engr. (Mrs) Nkechi Isigwe	Member	Rep. Women/Geoscientist. Former President, Association of Professional Women Engineers. Extractive Industries Expert.
8	President, NUPENG	Member	Representative of industries Union in oil and gas.
9	Barr. Musa Abdulahi Lawan	Member	Rep. North –West Zone
10	Abubakar Mu'azu	Member	Rep. North – East Zone
11	Amb. Matthew Sunday Adoli	Member	Rep. North – Central Zone
12	Olasupo, Abdel-Jeleel Taiwo Adekunle	Member	Rep. South –West Zone
13	Chief Israel Ikechukwu Ikwuegbu	Member	Rep. South – East Zone
14	Dr. Stephen Leo Akpan	Member	Rep. South - South Zone
15	Dr. Orji Ogbonnaya Orji	Secretary to the NSWG	Executive Secretary/CEO (in Office on 5-year Single Tenure)

7. Furthermore, Your Excellency is invited to note that due to the peculiar technical nature and strong international affiliations of NEITI operations as an anti-corruption/reforms advocacy Agency, only men and women with zero political affiliation, requisite competence and integrity are eligible for appointment into the NSWG in compliance with EITI global standards and the NEITI Act, 2007. The integrity of the NSWG (NEITI Board) is fundamental in the execution of its mandate in a courageous, transparent and accountable manner that meets multi-stakeholders expectations as well as the EITI global standards. The Secretary of the NSWG who is the current Executive Secretary of NEITI was appointed on 19th February, 2021 for a five-year single tenure and possess outstanding performance on the job as demonstrated recently in the high score rating of Nigeria in the last international assessment of NEITI.

8. Your Excellency, I have examined the request from NEITI and I consider it appropriate, legally justifiable and in the interest of the Federal Republic of Nigeria that the NEITI NSWG be re-constituted.

9. Accordingly, Your Excellency is humbly invited to:

- i. **note** that the NEITI NSWG was affected by Circular referenced SGF.19/S.81/XXI/108 dated 16th June, 2023 on dissolution of Boards of Federal Government Parastatals, Agencies, Institutions and Government Owned Companies;
- ii. **note** the need to re-constitute the NEITI National Stakeholders Working Group (NEITI Board) to avert international sanctions including possible suspension of Nigeria from the global organisation, which no doubt would attract negative impact for the country both at home and abroad and Nigeria has already exceeded the deadline; and
- iii. **consider and approve** the re-constitution of the NEITI National Stakeholders Working Group (NSWG) as recommended at paragraph 6 above, in compliance with the EITI global standards which Nigeria is a founding member to avert international sanctions against Nigeria.

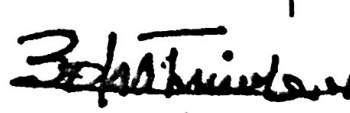
10. Respectfully submitted, please.


Sen. George Akume, *fnim*, CON
Secretary to the Government of the Federation

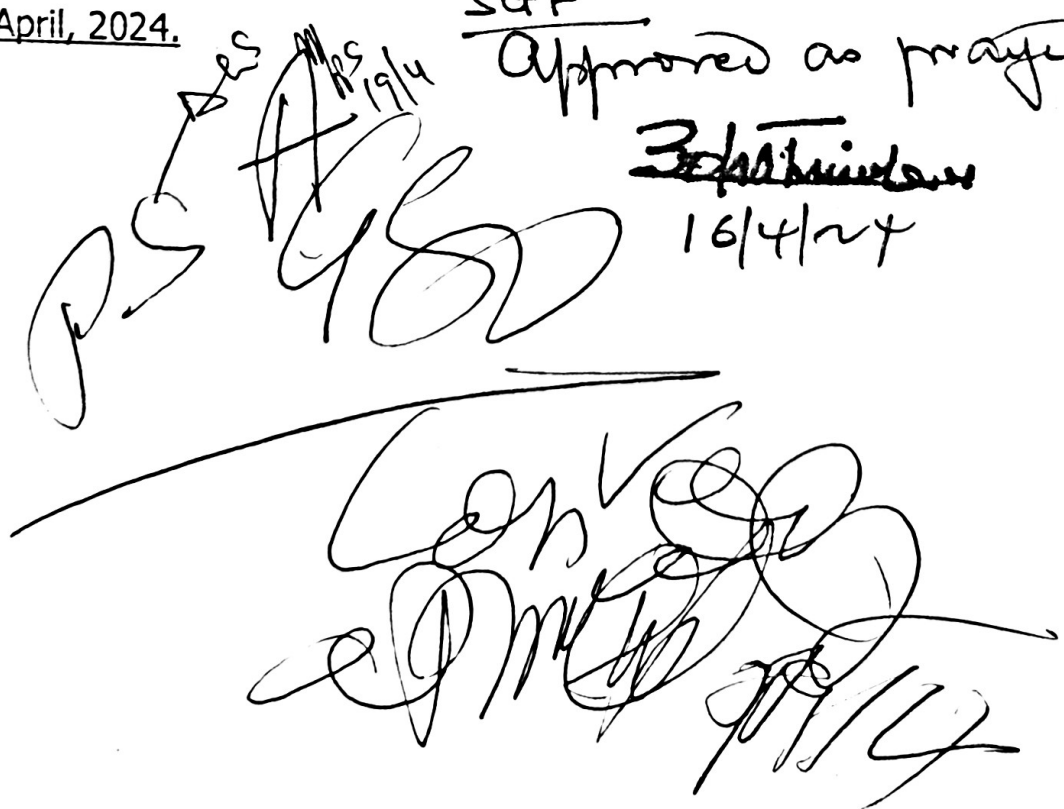
3rd April, 2024.

SGF

Approved as prayed


16/4/24

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